## **Jeffrey Sikes**

From:

Andrew Young <youngand@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 7:48 PM

To:

Dave Gustafson

Cc:

Kate Walker; Jeffrey Sikes; Stacey Evers

Subject:

Re: FYI: CACT/ESC joint meeting

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Hi Dave -

My vote would be to press forward with a meeting in February to get the conversation started. The ESC meeting would be at our regularly scheduled time on Thursday 2/18 at 7:30pm. I agree it makes sense to get started discussing how to create/promote safe corridors for biking/walking to school. We can make that our starting point and potentially expand from there.

Looking forward to working with you on this again!

Thanks,

Andy

On Tue, Jan 5, 2021 at 9:49 AM Dave Gustafson < davegustafson@gmail.com > wrote: Hi Andy,

Thank you for assembling a great list of topics for us to explore! Here are a few more suggested topics that fall mostly in the educational opportunity bucket:

- Cyclist behavior (aggressive riding on shared trails, blowing through stop signs)
- Driver behavior (stopping at bike trail crossings, providing adequate space to cyclists sharing roads)
- Educational outreach outlets (News-Press articles and public service announcement ads, Tysons Reporter, social media, Focus on Falls Church newsletters, community groups)
- Planning for an even-more-more dense City (our population is up at least 40% in 20 years)
- Winter/nighttime safety for cyclists
- Next steps for Dual Trails, Dual Trails street crossings, new bike bridge

As you mentioned, we learned in the last few weeks that the CACT is losing four of its seven members in short order with Andrea getting called up to the Planning Commission and three other busy members not planning to renew when their terms expire at the end of January (though some of them may be willing to stick around until their successors are in place, which is allowed under City code).

As for a joint meeting, I could see two ways we could proceed: The remaining CACT members attend an ESC meeting in February to get the conversation started (and then CACT would hold its usual monthly meeting), or we wait until March when CACT is likelier to be closer to a full roster, as Jeff mentioned. I'm good either way. I'm sorry that some sudden significant changes on our end are throwing a wrench in things.

With many Falls Church kids returning to school in the coming weeks, it might be good to start discussing how to create/promote safe corridors for biking/walking to school, especially when so many more parents will be opting to drive their kids instead of using the bus.

Many thanks and happy New Year, Dave

On Fri, Jan 1, 2021 at 3:40 PM Andrew Young <<u>youngand@gmail.com</u>> wrote: Hi Kate, Jeffrey, and Dave -

For city staff participation at the proposed February ESC/CACT meeting, I was hoping to hear from City Staff on current thoughts regarding the bicycle infrastructure in the City and what we might be able to do to better promote and make safe the expanded use of bicycles for kids going to school in the spring (socially distant form of transportation). How do we create pathways across the city to make bicycling for kids and families safer and easier?

Falls Church was recently awarded some grant money for a couple projects that could help, so hearing a little more about those could be a topic to focus on.

Dependent on member interest at the February session, the following topics are areas the ESC and CACT could work on in 2021:

- Improving bicycle infrastructure (e.g. bike lanes, bicycle parking)
- Educational opportunities (e.g. learn to ride events, promoting cycling as a green activity)
- Community biking events (e.g. family rides, open streets, cyclovia?)
- Potential partners for promoting bicycling (e.g. bicycle shops, FABB, WABA?)
- Topic ideas for a larger community forum on bicycling to be held in May/June

Kate found an idea for a speaker from Alexandria we could invite as well to see what they've done to promote bicycle use in a city with infrastructure similar to our own.

My push for February was to get the ball rolling on some things before spring, but based on Jeff's email below, I'll need to defer to Dave and Jeff on whether a February meeting will work for the CACT given its current state of membership. Maybe the push on making bicycling to school a safer and more viable alternative for our kids would be a good way to drum up interest. Please let me know what you guys would like to do.

Happy New Year!

Andy

On Wed, Dec 23, 2020 at 2:32 PM Kate Walker < <u>kwalker@fallschurchva.gov</u>> wrote:

From: Jeffrey Sikes < jsikes@fallschurchva.gov>Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2020 12:56 PM

To: Kate Walker < <u>kwalker@fallschurchva.gov</u>> **Subject:** RE: CACT/ESC joint meeting

Hi Kate,

The CACT is going through a transformation of membership. We have 4 members who do not want to be reappointed or are going to join a new commission. Dave Gustafason will be elevated to chair and Andrea will join the PC. I am not aware of any replacements that have been nominated to replace the old members.

I do not know how many members we will have in February to hold a joint meeting, however I feel confident we would have all slots filled by March. What is the purpose of the meeting and what does the ESC want to achieve?

Thanks for your help this past year with NTC mailings and other tasks. Have a great holiday.

Jeff Sikes

From: Kate Walker < <u>kwalker@fallschurchva.gov</u>> Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2020 11:12 AM

To: Paul Stoddard < PStoddard@fallschurchva.gov >; Zak Bradley < zbradley@fallschurchva.gov >; Mary \,

Chief (FCPD) < mgavin@fallschurchva.gov > Cc: Jeffrey Sikes < jsikes@fallschurchva.gov >

Subject: CACT/ESC joint meeting

CACT and ESC are considering a joint meeting on the topic of cycling in Falls Church, probably on 10<sup>th</sup> February (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday) at 7 p.m. They have asked if staff from CPEDS, DPW and Public Safety could join the discussion. We haven't yet finalized the agenda, so perhaps we won't need someone from each department, but could you ask the appropriate member of your staff to put a place-marker on their calendar, if they're willing to join us?

Thanks, and happy holidays.